Trials of the Hostesses Who Hire Operatio Studers to Amuse Their Guests-Very High Prices Paid for Their Services Result of the Mode of Hasty Dinners

New Yorkers have come to regard as dull dinner party which supplies only food and pleasant society. There must be something afterward to amuse the guests.

In nine cases out of ten nowadays it is bridge That is the means adopted by persons who can afford to give a dinner at are not able to spend from \$100 to \$4,000 in keeping their guests from boredom after they have eaten.

Dinners this season have been elaborate in what they offered afterward rather than in the meal itself. Persons who go out much have decided that long dinners as well as too elaborate menus are not interesting

or good form; so the meal is hurried. In some houses one gets the impression the dinner must be got through with at any cost and that nothing else seems so important to the hostess as finishing up. Inexperienced persons who put on their plates a comfortable amount of what they want suddenly find that they are the only

The portions to which the others helped themselves were no larger than a teasp ful. They have learned that one of the men will be around in a minute to take the plates away and they do not take more than they can eat in a very short time.

Where the men and women who are willing to have dinner treated as if it were someing that had to be got rid of in as short a time as possible get their food is not a matter easy to decide. Women rarely eat much under any circumstances at a formal dinner and the lateness of the hour at which formal dinners are served has made afternoon tea a much more substantial refreshment than it used to be. New York teas are becoming as substantial as those in England.

As the dinner has come to be so hurried. and as the guests cannot go home at half past 9, some kind of entertainment must be provided. This usually takes the form of music in the absence of bridge or theatre.

There have been more costly musicales this winter than ever, although they are so informal that they are not heard of except by those who attend them. When a hostess engaged a prima donna from the opera in former years to sing for her guests, the function was thought to be something enough out of the ordinary

Now these parties are of almost weekly occurrence. One prima donna at the Metropolitan, who has the privilege of singing at private houses six times every season, has earned \$18,000 in this way, as her fee is \$3,000 for singing in private.

Suppose you had \$4,000 to spend in entertaining a few guests and wanted to have some of the great singers come to your house, how would you go about getting

To give a musicale properly required some experience or the assistance of somebody who knows enough about music to see that the singers and the numbers suit the size of the room and the auditors. A mistake may very much interfere with the

Last week a prima donna of imposing appearance and a dramatic voice was the star of a private musicale. She roared out an impassioned aris that made the ceiling

When she ended with an upward swoop that almost took the audience out of its ests there was a ghastly silence. The of relief and immediately began were deaf.

The soprano simpered and smirked at the piano, hoping that somebody would at east be courteous enough to applaud her little. Then the guests realized that she had not been very politely treated, and here was faint applause from the rear of

"What in the world shall I do?" the hostess saked in despair. "My party will be also utely ruined if she does that again. Yet cannot tell her to go more quietly."

Somebody suggested that she call out the accompanist and tell him it would sound much better if Madame would go a ittle slow on the high notes and be a little bit less dramatio. This was done. After that she went it more piano and the guests did not suffer as they might have if she had stuck to the original pace.

The contrast in the party saved it anyway. French singer who knew how to moduate his voice to the proportions of a drawing room sang very charmingly, and the applause he received must have shown the lady sitting by the hostess that it was not necessary to yell her utmost merely because she was a prima donna.

There was another musical party the ther night and the hostess engaged a prima donna who is famous for her beauty. sthere were to be guests at dinner and a lew others were invited in at 10:15 it was not intended that there should be more than an hour of music. On the understanding that the prima donna would supply so mucl entertainment for the rather large sun sked for her services the lady engaged

"Mme. Gin-alt can only sing two numbers," the manager said when this was mentioned to him. "They will probably not last more than twenty minutes at the

In spite of her pleadings the lady could not induce the manager to commit the oprano to any more music. So she was compelled to get two other singers.

The only men who could be engaged for hat night happened to be Germans, but they had to do. The concert was therefore made up of an Italian prima donna and a German knor with the assistance of a Wagnerian

The fortunate part about the cooperation of the men was that they had rarely sung before in private houses in New York and the guests enjoyed the opportunity of seeing them for the first time without their

Not long ago a hostess who had engaged me of the most expensive of the stars rough an agent began to be a little bit apprehensive about her party as she had had no word as to what the programme would be. She dared to call the singing ad, up on the telephone to ask her if every thing had been arranged.

The singer was acquainted with the hostes and came to the telephone when her maid told her who it was.

"I wanted to find out if everything was all right for Thursday night at my house, the hostess began. "Thursday night at your house?"

sated the singer. "Why, what should is about that?"

But you are to sing at my musical." "I am hearing now for the first time that you expect me at your house on Thursday. Then the distracted hostess expla hat she had engaged the singer

"Now that I hear it mentioned," the prime donna consented to remember, "I do recall something about it. But I could not possibly come to your house for an entertainment without an invitation."

The card arrived within an hour after this conversation. There was no doubt that the woman would never have come unless she had been formally invited. In addition to inviting singers who are

going to get several thousand dollars for their services, the hostess must meet them in the dressing room, and usually they sit by her during the concert, rising to sing their numbers quite after the style of amateurs who are having a little music at home. Usually the guests are all taken up and presented to the singer as if she were tho guest of honor.

Not long ago a soprane who had been engaged to sing at one of the largest houses on the avenue arrived with her maid and was ushered into the room reserved for the artists. She was slow in removing her wraps and concluded after she was part of the way out of them that it was time for the hostess to come to welcome her.

So she told her maid to put them on again after she had inquired of one of the servants where the lady was. When he saw the preparations for departure he rushed in aste to the hostess.

She had been detained at the dinner table, as a dinner of very elaborate character was preceding the musical. It was difficult for her to leave her guests. She reached the hall, however, just as the inger's ample form was disappearing hrough the portière.

"Ah, Mrs. Smith," the singer said. "Then

am in the right house? I was going out to tell my coachman we had made a mistake, else you would have been at the door to meet me."

The hostess looked as if she would like to speed her flight into the open, but her guests were soon to arrive and she did not dare risk offending the star attraction at her biggest party of the winter.

Some of the singers make it a condition that no other woman shall be engaged and no musicians of any kind without consulting them. A young hostess last winter sent out cards to invite her friends to hear a great prima donna sing. Afterward she heard from her friends of all kinds of wonderful performers that she might also have engaged. As the money question played no part

n her plans the young woman began to engage them. By the time the night of the party arrived she had, in addition to the soprano, a band of choir boys who would look beautiful marching down her marble stairway, a band of Venetian gondoliers who would be charming at the entrance to the music room carolling "Santa Lucia," a barytone who sang beautiful love songs in excellent French and a voice as soft as pomade, a girl who could pound the piano with the best of the men players and a quartet that played antique nusic on near antique instruments.

The prima donna arrived and beheld in the artists' room this job lot of musical entertainers. The hostess hurried in to greet her.

"But surely," the prima donna said, 'you don't need me when you have so much for your guests?"

The singer was in earnest. She was perfectly willing to go home and lose her \$3,000 fee rather than be part of such a musical vaudeville as the inexperienced hostess had planned. Out of gratitude because she consented to remain to make the party a success, the young matron sent the prima donna a diamond bracelet the next day.

On another occasion the singer engaged had not begun to arrange a programme and asked the agent to find out if there was anything the hostess especially wanted. quests looked at one another with an ex- | This suggestion was made rather as a relief than as a favor to the since she was at a loss what to put on the

rogramme. The hostess sent her a list of the most difficult and exacting operatic airs she could think of. The prima donna took wo out of the twenty she had been asked to sing and sent a message to the hostess that if she wanted the rest of the programme t would be necessary to engage her for a month and not for one night.

Another hostess asked a prima donna t sing "Dearie," and was surprised that the woman ignored the request and did not put the piece on the programme nor even mention it. Indeed, it rarely happens that hostesses make any suggestions about the music. They know that it is best for the musicians to choose.

It occasionally happens that they suggest the color of dress to be worn, that it may harmonize with the room in which the concert is to be given.

Some of the singers at the Metropolitan and at the Manhattan as well are at liberty to make their own concert arrangements, but the majority of them are under sol contract to Mr. Conried or Mr. Hammer stein. The impresarios charge for their services whatever they see fit.

The charge is usually much in advance of the fee the artist actually receives. Mr. Grau sometimes got more than twice as much as the fee paid to the singer. One of the Conried prima donnas sang last week in a private house and her fee was twice what she receives from the opera house. Those artists who make their own arrangements in regard to private conerts invariably receive more than they lemand for appearances on the stage.

That the regular operagoers should have so much of the singers in the theatre and yet want to engage them for appearances in their homes, frequently astonishes people who suppose that they might like a little variety. This winter there has been a greater demand than ever for the artists om the music halls.

They are sometimes of a sufficiently refined and contained style to sing in a drawing room. They are more of a novelty than the singers from the opera houses and do not cost nearly so much; nor are they so exigent in the matter of etiquette.

SALTING DUCK MARSHES.

Practice Condemned by Hunters, Who Call It Barnyard Sport.

A California newspaper chronicles the prowess of a large number of mighty nimrods who recently killed the limit number of ducks on various preserve grounds pre viously baited with food which had made the birds tame and unsuspicious.

This "barnyard sport" does not appeal to a Recreation correspondent, who objects to unnecessary slaughter, even if the law does admit the killing of half a hundred

The practice of "salting" duck marshes and lakes with corn and other grain, and then "burning them out" on the opening day is simply a phase of the degeneracy of latterday duck shooting.

The birds get so that they will come for the grain like chickens at the call of a nousewife. It requires no hunting skill' to find the game and it is so ridiculously tame from non-molestation and constant feeding at the baited points that the shoot-ing is about as difficult as shooting at a poultry show and killing a rocster.

her agent and supposed that she had of KINDERGARTEN IN A HOSPITAL

WORK AMONG THE SICK CHIL-DREN AT BELLEVUE.

No Other Class Like It to the World, It Is Belleved-The Enterprise Has Been So Successful That It Is Fronged to Extend the Sam : Benefits to Gider Children.

And for the pleasant morning light, For rest and food and loving care Help us to do the things we should To be to others kind and good, In all we do, in work or play,

Father, we thank Thee for the night

To grow more loving every day The words were being sung softly over and over. It was in the children's surgical ward of Bellevue Hospital. One of the

dergartenihas been to the babies and little | a difference and frequently he would try children confined in the hospital. They

look forward to it eagerly and it has brought much happiness into their lives. "Many of the children have to remain in the hospital for months. They cannot go to school and the education of many has been almost wholly neglected. At home they have been petted and spoiled because of their ill health and next to

nothing has been taught them. "Now I hope it will be possible to extend the educational idea out of the kindergarten into the elementary studies, so that the older children may enjoy the same advantages. I mean to make a proposition to the board soon, and I feel sure when they realize the necessity they will be only too glad to accede to the wishes of the trustees and staff in this respect."

To show what effect the kindergarten has had upon the children Miss Vandeventer related the story of Jerry, a street

to puzzle it out. "'Why am I different, and how?' he would

say in great perplexity. "We learned since he left that his parents were both drunkards. Much to our joy we have also heard that Jerry has grown up into a fine boy, making the most of him

self and reforming his parents." "It is amozing what fortitude and heroist are exhibited in a hospital kindergarten." said Miss Vandeventer. "The children seem to realize that they are in a community where, if they parade their own sufferings, it will react on the other children. So they

try, bear the pain and discomfort in a truly heroic fashion. "Some of the conceptions which exist in the minds of the children are very funny, and pathetic as well. Many of them are amazingly ignorant of even the simplest

Biblical or historical facts. "One day the story of Jonah came up.

"'George Washington, sure,' exclaimed Johnnie with emphasis.

"It is ourious how the children imitate the activities of the hospital. One day a little boy picked up a broken doll, much to the small mother's discomfiture, and said

he would operate on it. "Some time later he returned saying the operation had been successful and the doll would soon be out from under the effects of ether. Soon afterward the doll was returned entirely cured or mended.

"One day I had been telling the children about George Washington, that he was the father of his country, and that he pointed the way to many good things if they would follow his example. The same day I taught them the finger play. 'This is the mother, good and dear. This is the father with hearty cheer,' the mother being the thumb and the index finger the father. When it was all over one of the children raised his thumb, saying:



nurses peered over the screen about a white iron cot and saw that the singer was May. one of the kindergarten children. She was dressed in an operation gown, sitting up in bed, ready to be taken to the amphi heatre to be operated on.

oving every day." She never came back to them; her departure made a deep and lasting impression on them all.

children, who as patients are recruited from the poorest parts of the city.

ery afternoon in the c tained, that the daily exercises are held. Suffering from many afflictions, eighteen

overlooking the quadrangle of Bellevue.

Surrounding the kindergarten circle, over which Miss Minnie C. Vandeventer presides.

different from any ordinary one. If the small patients whose white cribs line the walls are very ill then the morning songs must be abandoned, and if the kindergarten children themselves are convalescing from fractured limbs then they cannot enter into active games, and so the finger plays and others must be introduced instead.

It has been in operation some two years. having been started as an experiment by the Board of Education, and is an annex to Public School 14, in Dr. Stitt's district. Its success has been so marked that Dr. John W. Brannan, president of the Board of Trustees of Bellevue, contemplates asking for an extension of the work to include the older children of the hospital, many of whom are obliged to remain there for many weary weeks and even months.

In speaking of the advantages of the kindergarten Dr. Brannan said: "No one knows what a blessing the kin-

The truck came in and the last words hey heard her say were, "To grow more

As for the child herself, her brief kindergarten experience had come in the light of a new gospel to her. So it has to the other

It is believed that nowhere else in the world is just such another kindergarten as surgical ward of Bellevue Hospital. It is in Ward 7, where the convalescents are de-

children gather around the kindergarten tables in the big room to learn the mysteries of paper folding and block building and to receive such instruction as is given them. It is a big sunny ward facing the east and

is a background of little white cots. In them lie boys and girls, some strapped to boards, others swathed in bandages, one with a broken leg, another recovering from serious burns, another little fellow dying by inches with an incurable disease and still others suffering from fractured bones and wounds of one sort or another. Of course a hospital kindergarten is quite

Points From a Gas Man and a Professor o

"What sort of people are the Browns

on the top floor?" asked the gas man as he

met the janitor in the hall. "Their gas bill

"Very nice people, I think," said the

"That accounts for it. I don't believe

"The first month they were here," said

the janitor, "he came down to the cellar

several times and looked at his meter. He

said there was too much pressure and that

"I guess he did, too. It's a pity more

people don't know how to fix their meters.

There would be less grumbling about gas

bills if they did, and the company would

Another tenant who had come in while

the gas man was talking asked if the

will help you to do it if you ask them; but

you can do it better yourself, as the pressure

in the evening is not the same as it is during

"Turn on full and light all the gas jets

in the apartment, and the kitchen range,

if its supply comes through the same meter.

If there are some jets which are never

lighted at the same time as the others, you

can leave them out. The idea is to regulate.

"Not at all," said he. "The company

process of fixing the meter was a secret.

janitor. "He is a professor of chemistry

and she seems to be a good housekeeper."

is always the smallest in the house.

they waste much gas."

he had set the meter right."

be just as well off in the end."

the day, when our men are here.

Chemistry on Avoiding Waste.

He was unconscious for many days, the only words that issued from his mouth were profane. Even when he began to convalence he still swore roundly when-

suffering from a fractured skull.

lad who had been brought into the hospital

ever things did not go to suit him. When he got up and about he evinced deep interest in the kindergarten. The new activities soon had their effect upon him. He becam devoted to the children and his teacher. In short he was a different boy.

"Let somebody go down cellar to the

meter while somebody else watches the

lights upstairs. A key is supplied with

every meter by which you can turn a cock

in the pipe at the side of the meter and so

"The gas may be turned off very

regulate the amount of gas passing into it.

gradually, and the man who is doing this

must inquire from time to time how the

lights are burning. The first effect, if there

was a high pressure to begin with, will be

"As soon as the lights begin to grow at

all dim the meter must be turned on a little and then left. The pressure is now sufficient to give the fullest possible light without

any waste.
"In my own flat," continued the gas-man, "there are seven rooms. There are six of us in the family and we burn all the gas we want; but our bill is never more than

"We haven't a gas range, or the bills would be higher, but even that needn't cost much if the heat isn't wasted. I guess Mrs. Brown attends to that as well as her husband looks after the meter. You'd better ask her about it."

and found her quite ready to tell how she managed to keep her gas bille down. "Our first bill frightened us," she ex-plained; "so we investigated the matter

and discovered several ways of making the next one smaller.

"After my husband had regulated the meters, we tried the illuminating powers

meters, we tried the illuminating powers of several kinds of burners, and mantles noting the number of cubic feet of gas consumed hourly. We adopted for general

other tenant did ask Mrs. Brown,

to stop the unnecessary flare.

"We haven't a gas range.

KEEPING DOWN THE GAS BILL. | the meter so that it will supply all you need

and no more.

"Jerry was a different boy, so nice, polite and well mannered," one of the attendants "He realized himself that there was said.

WOMEN PATIENTS MAKING INDIAN BASHETS

Some knew it, others did not. I was asked about it and I told them how there once lived a man who had heard a voice tell him to go out and preach the Gospel among his people.

"But he did not listen; rather he took a boat in a different direction. A great storm arose and he was cast into the sea. A whale came and swallowed him and after three days the whale came close to the shore and Jonah jumped out. Then I asked: "What do you suppose Jonah did then?"

" 'Went home and got dry clothes on, responded one small child with alacrity. "Just before Christmas a visitor asked new child, 'Who was born on Christmas Day?'

use the form which we found most profita-

"As you see, the shades are arranged to throw the light down on our desks and tables. We find that one of these is as effective as three of the old fashioned jets

effective as three of the old fashioned jets obscured by semi-opaque ground glass

"We don't try to save gas by leaving most of our rooms in total darkness; it isn't cheerful and it isn't convenient, so we

"We are careful, however, to turn down

at once any light that is not needed, even for a few minutes. Besides being a saving

this keeps the air purer.
"I keep a close watch on the gas range

for it is quite easy for a thriftless servant to waste ten dollars worth of gas in a month. It is very important that a burner should

not be kept going a moment longer than is

the gas may be turned down very low with-out reducing the temperature below the boiling point. Another great saving is effected by the use of the double boiler

to cook a chicken for salad or fricassee, two or more vegetables and a pudding. Several very different things may be cooked in

the same compartment without any mix ture of flavors if each is placed in a little

tightly covered tin can or a screw top jar Vegetables and dried fruits cooked in this

The most expensive part of the gas range is the oven; but a great deal of fine cooking may be done without using the oven at all. You know how much can be done with a chafing dish.

"Some of the most nutritious cuts of

The most expensive part of the gas range

way are delicious.

d the quadruple boiler or steamer.
With the latter one burner may be made

"After a pot has been brought to a boil

(the forefinger) is George Washington, because he is the father and points the "He had absorbed the spirit of the two

" 'This is Mrs. Washington, and this

stories and rather ingeniously put the two together.
"Another time, after the children had

been drawing with red crayon, a small girl held up her hands saying, 'They're as red as the devil.' I asked her how she knew about that, and she explained that person ally she wasn't acquainted with him, but some one at home had said he was red. "Another time I asked where eggs came

" 'Trees,' was the quick reply. "The answer had more logic in it than appeared on the surface. Birds build nests in trees and there lay eggs in them, con sequently eggs must come from trees, the child explained."

Many of the little patients at Bellevue are there as a result of the conditions in which they live. One little girl, Sadie by name, who lives in East Third street at the top of an old tenement with her 'mother and two small sisters, is suffering from overwork and lack of nourishment.

Artificial flower making is supposed to provide the four with a roof, food and clothing. By working nearly twenty hours out of the twenty-four and with the assistance of the three children, even to the small four-year-old, the mother is able to earn not more than \$6 or \$7.

They live in two rooms with no conveniences. Two of the children attend school, but every minute out of school they divide between helping their mother and studying.

The mother never goes to bed until 12 o'clock and always arises at 5, sometimes at 3. The children assist her up to 11 P. M. the youngest child separating the petals for the roses.

The children also arise at 5 and assis their mother till school time. For this sort of work they get 5 cents a gross for the rosebuds and 15 cents a gross for American Beauty roses.

To see the women patients of the hospital sitting up in bed or in big, comfortable, easy chairs making Indian baskets from raffia, is another surprise to the visitor at Bellevue. Miss Vandeventer took up this work, as the need for some occupation was apparent among the patients, and the women are fascinated with it.

Weaving the raffla is not difficult, nor

does it take much strength, and one thing that adds interest to the work is the fact that each one is privileged to take home the result of her labors when she leaves

top of the range. I am ashamed when I think of my early extravagance in allowing the burners of the oven to be kept going for ten minutes at a time when I wanted two or three slices of toast. Nowadays I have this done on a toaster on top of range.
"Then, too, the oven used to be kept burn-

ing for hours when we wanted to keep some-thing hot. Now we put such dishes into the steamer or the double boiler and keep them in much better condition at a teath of the cost. "Again, washing and ironing

mean such consumption of gas that we might as well have sent our clothes to a laundry as far as expense was concerned.

Now I have trained the woman to turn down the gas as soon as the clothes begin to boil, and for heating irons I have a little stand on which we can place four around one burner instead of setting two over it.

"The cost of these various appliances was saved within the first month. But the satisfaction they have given us is out of all proportion to the saving they have effected.

"My husband says we rejoice in the economy because we have chemically trained consciences. The chemist simply cannot tolerate waste."

From the London World.

A hundred and twelve new trades, some strange and a few gruesome, are included in the new London directory for 1907. For the first time a cast iron repairer comes on the scene, as also do the addressing ma chine maker, the inventor of safety breathing appliances, the soluble coffee creator, the folding baby car constructor, the india rubber tile maker, the theatrical hatter and the maker of embalming fluid.

Performances That Are Recommended by the Institute's Special Committee. Those in charge of the dramatic work

May Buy Tickets at Special Rates to

of the People's Institute, which was formally organized on January 8, hope that this will speedily become an important and

GOOD PLAYS AT LOW PRICES.

WHAT THE PEOPLE'S INSTITUTE

Public School Pupils and Workers in Shope

HOPES TO DO.

far reaching movement. "As the situation now reveals itself." said Mr. Frederick R. Conant, who has chiefly developed the work and who is now secretary of the committee which governs it, "we will not only do the community a great deal of good, but our influence will have great weight in improving the class of drama presented to the public.

For some years past the People's Institute has done occasional work in proguring reduced rate tickets for school children from managers of plays of an inspirational or educational character. The first experiment was with the Ben Greet company, with which arrangements were made to permit hundreds of school ohildren to witness their Shakespearian productions by paying 10 or 15 cents each, Last year 5,000 school children got the opportunity to witness the performance of this company by paying 25 or 50 cents, and through a like arrangement 10,000 school children saw Maude Adams in "Peter Pan" at greatly reduced rates. Since January 8, however, the work has developed from the experimental stage to a systematic movement.

"Managers now realize that it is better to allow us to fill half their houses for them at reduced rates than to have the seats empty," said Mr. Conant. "They are anxious to have us indorse and advertise their plays. The 10,000 seats we filled at 'Peter Pan' enabled that play to keep open two weeks longer than it could otherwise have done. Since October we have sent 15,000 people to other plays recommended by us, and now that the work has been systematically launched the number will be much greater in future.

"Our indorsement of a performance brings it to the notice of a class of persons whom the managers would not otherwise reach, and it also means that the play has been recommended by a committee of unprejudiced, competent judges as well worth seeing. On our part we guarantee that so far as possible we will prevent the reduced rate tickets going into the hands of persons who are able to pay full price for them.

"In the beginning educators were those principally interested in the dramatic department of our work. Then clergymen and settlement workers began men and settlements and offered to be-recognize its benefits and offered to be-come responsible for the proper distri-bution of the reduced rate tickets. Since the formal organization of our work in January I have tried to introduce it among the employees of department stores and

January I have tried to introduce it among the employees of department stores and have met, in most cases, with hearty cooperation from the superintendents.

"Our method of distribution is simple. Six members of our dramatic committee visit the initial performance of any play, the manager of which wishes to cooperate with us, and if recommended by them notices to that effect are printed by us and mailed to the managers of every school, library, shop, church or society with which we have made arrangements. The principal or head of the institution has the notices posted where they will be seen by those entitled to special tickets and they pai or head of the institution has the no-tices posted where they will be seen by those entitled to special tickets and they send their orders through him. Every person is entitled to two tickets."

Formerly individual requests for spe-cial tickets were filled from the office of the dramatic committee, but this system soon engaged the entire time of the three stenographers employed by the department. Therefore all applications must now be made through the superintendent or principal, who sends in an order for tickets according to the requests he has received. These special tickets, when presented at the box office of the theatre, entitle the bearer to any seat in the house, at the reduced rate stipulated on it. Generally 50 cent seats are given for 25 cents, \$1 seats for 50 cents. \$1.50 seats for \$1, and \$2 seats for \$1.50. Seats may be purchased in adfor 50 cents. Size seats for 51, and 52 seats for \$1.50. Seats may be purchased in advance—in fact the bearer of the special ticket is entitled to all the privileges of one who is paying full price.

"We work on the supposition that people

who patronize cheap theatres do so only because those of better class are beyond their reach," said Mr. Conant, "and the their reach," said Mr. Conant, "and the eagerness with which the people of moderate means to whom we have offered an opportunity for the best have grasped it fully justifies this belief. The development of the plan reveals the fact that we are substituting high class theatres for cheaper once for an audience numbering paarly ones for an audience numbering

ones for an audience numbering nearly 1,000,000 people in Greater New York.

"That audience, filling up the seats which might otherwise be vacant in a theatre, means a great deal to the New York manager. How much it means you may be able to judge when I tell you that through us 200 people have been attending 'The Man of the Hour' each week—people who otherwise could not have enjoyed it."

No hard and fast rules have so far been decided upon by the dramatic committee of the People's Institute as to what constitutes a high class dramatic performance or what requirements a play must meet

stitutes a high class dramatic performance or what requirements a play must meet in order to be worthy of recommendation by it. The committee tried to formulate rules to govern its decision, but this was found to be inexpedient, and each play is now judged upon its own merits.

For the schools Dr. Maxwell laid down the following dictum: "While a leading object of the theatre is to give pleasure, the critic should remember that a play which merely

of the theatre is to give pleasure, the critic should remember that a play which merely amuses an audience, even in a clean and wholesome way, is not necessarily to be recommended. If in addition to being entertaining a play appeals to the fancy or the historical imagination by artistic stage setting, or otherwise presents an instructive picture of life, or clearly tends to develop right judgment about some problem of life, in so far it may be regarded as fulfilling the higher ends of dramatic art. Any play offered to the public schools should contain something of moral uplift, and no play must be recommended which

and no play must be recommended which is objectionable on moral grounds or which tends to inculcate false ideals of character and behavior."

"Peter Pan" was considered to develop
the imagination of the children and thus
to fulfil a legitimate end in education. "The
Road to Yesterday" has been recommended

to high school pupils only.

Upon the dramatic committee of the People's Institute are representatives of schools, settlements, organized labor, business houses, the clergy and a number of literary men and critics. Of these, eighteen have been chosen as an executive committee, which has the active work in charge, and six of whom visit every play that is to be passed upon. Among the six three are always representatives of the Board of Education, and their judgment is final so far the schools are concerned.

as the schools are concerned.

The plays recommended by the People's Institute since last October are: "Midsum-mer Night's Dream," "Cymbeline," "Prince of India," "Pippa Passes," "Cassar and Cleopatra," "The Man of the Hour," "The Cleopatra," "The Man of the Hour," "The Road to Yesterday" and the performances of Robert Mantell in Shakespearian plays

Steam Shovel to Pind Miser's Gold. Middlepart correspondence Rochceter Post-Express.

Diligent search for the \$10,000 in gold said to have been buried by the miser James to have been buried by the miser James Cutler before his death in 1905 will be resumed as soon as the frost is out of the ground. William Cutler, a son, of Cleveland, was here on Monday and arranged with the construction company building the trolley road through this village to turn over every inch of ground with one of its powerful steam shovels. The house in which Cutler lived burned shortly after his death and he often said he had buried his money. He lived slong in this sharty for fifty years.